

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/719,498  
Reply to Office Action Dated July 14, 2004

### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1, 7, 8, and 9 are hereby amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 7, 8, and 9 are amended to comply with the Examiner's formal concerns. Independent claim 1 has been rewritten to include steps and functions performed by each step. Independent claim 9 has been rewritten to comply with the guidelines for an apparatus claim.

The claim 1 and 9 amendments, reciting the definitions of  $P(z)$ ,  $F(z)$ ,  $z$ , and  $N$ , would be common knowledge to one "of ordinary skill in the art".

Support for the claim 9 amendment, reciting  $X(z)$  as an input signal and  $S(z)$  as an output signal, can be found in the specification, page 2, lines 14-16.

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In view of the above, favorable reconsideration in the form of a notice of allowance is requested. Any questions regarding this communication can be directed to the undersigned attorney, John J. Gresens, Reg. No. 33,112, at (612)371-5265.



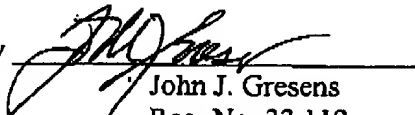
Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 5, 2004

By

  
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JJG:mfe